(b) if so, by when the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(c) to what extent it would help in providing assistance to the rural labour?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

National strategy for standardisation and quality system

*234. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments' attention has been drawn to a report published in the Hindustan Times of the 19th July, 1990 regarding the evolving of a national strategy for standardisation and quality system in the country; if so, how many Indian standards have so far been formulated in different technology areas; and

(b) what is the number of licences issued so far by the Bureau of Indian Standards?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The number of Indian Standards formulated by the Bureau of Indian Standards, as on 31st July, 1990, in different areas is: 14863.

(b) The number of operative licences granted by Bureau of Indian Standards till the end of July, 1990 is: 11394.

White Paper on Child Labour

*235. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Task Force of his Ministry has been assigned the job of preparing a White Paper on Child labour in different sections in the country and their working conditions; and

(b) if so, by when the White Paper is proposed to be prepared?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Oil palm plantation in Andhra Pradesh

*236. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to cultivate oil palm in Andhra Pradesh on a large scale and the amount sanctioned for the purpose; and

(b) what were the results of oil palm plantation in Kerala and how does it compare with the present project in A.P.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) A demonstration project on oil palm is being implemented since 1988-89 in an area of 1000 hectare in the districts of Krishna, East Godavari and West Godavari. An amount of Rs. 580.83 lakh has been sanctioned for five years of which Rs. 140.415 lakh is the share of Department of Bio-Technology (GOI) and Rs. 140.415 lakh of Government of Andhra Pradesh. The balance amount is proposed to be raised through institutional finance.

(b) The results of oil palm cultivation in Kerala have been found encouraging. The plantations in Kerala are raised on the Government land under rainfed conditions, while in Andhra Pradesh oil palm is being raised in the farmers' holdings with assured irrigation.

Works on pesticides residue

*237. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that apart from the 13 Laboratories under the ICAR coordinating Pesticides Residue Scheme, the CSIR Laboratories such as National Botanical Research Institute are also doing similar research in plants such as Pan leaves, Betel and Neem; if so, the details thereof indicating the foods, the farm products tested, the pesticides analysed and the results obtained;

(b) what are the achievements of the above collaboration and what measures have been taken to avoid the overlapping in the R and D involved; and

(c) whether there has been any exchange of views before embarking on these products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Sir, The research conducted in ICAR is complementary to the work being done in CSIR. While ICAR is laying more emphasis on pre-harvest residue analysis, CSIR is concentrating mainly on pesticide residues during the post-harvest phase. Research under ICAR has established tolerance limits and waiting periods for different pesticides being used in the country. In addition, neem products have been tested for various crop pests. The Central Food Technology Research Institute, CSIR is engaged in pesticide residue assessment in food and has developed technologies and formulations specific to conservation and protection of food as a part of post harvest technology chain. The National Botanical Research Institute of CSIR is carrying on investigations on pesticide residues in betel leaves as a part of its operational research project.

Demand for repeal of ESMA, etc.

*238. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a demand from the workers to repeal the Essential Services Maintenance Act and other anti-labour laws; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Representations had been made in the past against the Trade Unions and the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 1988 which had been introduced in the Rajya Sahba on the 13th May, 1988. The subject came up for discussion in the 29th Session of the Indian Labour Conference held on 21st and 22nd April, 1990 and following that, a decision was taken to withdraw the aforesaid Bill. The Bill was formally withdrawn from the Rajya Sabha on 30th May, 1990. As far the Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA) is concerned, its present validity extends upto the 22nd September, 1990. A decision regarding further extension of its validity or otherwise will be taken before this date.

तिलहनों के उत्पादन में कठिनाइयां

*239. **सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :**
श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 28 मई, 1990 के "टाइम्स आफ इंडिया" में इनपुट शार्टेज हिटस आयल सीड्स आउटपुट" शीर्षक के अन्तर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) क्या भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थान और भारतीय सांख्यिकी संस्थान के संयुक्त अध्ययन दल द्वारा प्रस्तुत की गई रिपोर्ट में तिलहनों के उत्पादन में पेश आ रही कठिनाइयों का उल्लेख किया गया है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने अच्छी किस्म के बीज, उर्वरकों और कीटनाशकों के उत्पादन की ओर कोई ध्यान दिया है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो अगले तीन वर्षों के दौरान उन्नत बीजों, उर्वरकों और कीटनाशकों के उत्पादन का वर्ष-वार कितना-कितना लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है ?